Docket No.: APA-0214

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the Office Action mailed on September 25, 2006.

Claims 2-3 and 6-8 are currently pending in this application, with claims 2 and 6 being independent. *No new matter has been added.*

Reexamination in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim rejections

Page 3 of the Office Action indicates that claims 2-3 and 6-7 contain allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, while not conceding the propriety of this rejection and to advance the prosecution of the above-identified application, claims 1 and 4 have been canceled, rendering the rejection of these claims as moot.

Moreover, claim 8 has been amended.

Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are allowable, and the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reexamination and reconsideration of the application in light of the remarks is courteously solicited.

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If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone Brian K. Dutton, Reg. No. 47,255, at 202-955-8753.

If any fee is required or any overpayment made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee or credit the overpayment to Deposit Account # 18-0013.

Dated: January 25, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

David T. Nikaido

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Brian K. Dutton

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Attorneys for Applicant